



St Luke's C E First School

7th February
2025

Dates for your Diary

February

Monday 24th –
School Re-opens
for Spring 2

March

Monday 3rd &
Friday 7th –
Carbon Monoxide
awareness
workshops for
Years 2, 3 & 4

Wednesday 5th –
PE event at school
for Giraffes

Thursday 6th –
World Book Day

Monday 10th –
Lions Class visit to
the Mosque

Tuesday 11th –
Lions class
Stepping Out
Pedestrian
Training Part 1

Wednesday 12th –
Lions class Cross
Country Qualifying
Race @
Birchensale

Thursday 13th –
Bears Work with
Me @ 2.15pm



HOPE



TRUST



JUSTICE



FORGIVENESS



HUMILITY



RESILIENCE

This week...

As we reach the end of this half term, I would like to thank all of our staff team for their continued hard work and commitment. Every day is exciting and busy as we aim to ensure our children have the best educational experiences possible. I also want to thank our wonderful children for always working hard and striving to be the best they can be – and for always being happy, kind and nurturing towards each other. Thank you to you, our parents and carers, for your ongoing support of the school – it has been brilliant to see so many of you in school over the past two weeks for our work with me sessions!

I hope you all have a wonderful half term break. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Monday 24th**

February.

Attendance:

Our attendance to date is **95.05%**

As we approach half way through the year, I am pleased that our overall attendance remains above 95%. We are aiming for 96% this year – and I think we can do it! In order to reach this, we urge parents to consider if your child's illness meets the criteria from the NHS document 'Should I keep my child off school?' which you can find at the end of this newsletter.

Repeated sickness absences mean your child is missing out on key areas of learning and this can significantly impact their overall progress and attainment, so please consider whether you can send your child in if they feel slightly under the weather. We will be looking carefully at each absence, and will only authorise repeated sickness absence if it meets the NHS criteria.

Please be advised that 10 unauthorised absences (5 days) can lead to a fixed penalty notice fine.



Bears	Giraffes	Elephants	Tigers	Lions	Whole School
90.33%	94.83%	91.54%	97.93%	98.62%	94.69%

Changes to the start of the school day

In order to attempt to address the issues of driving/parking around our school and the increase of pupils arriving late to school, we are proposing a trial period of change to our drop off arrangements each morning.



From Monday 24th February, we will be opening the classroom doors at 8:40am and closing them as usual at 8:50am. This is to provide a 10 minute drop off window, with the aim being that some parents will drop and leave the carpark/area around school, therefore freeing up space for other parents/carers arriving.

Our start time remains the same at 8:50am and it is expected that all children are here on time. However, we hope that by extending the drop off period by 5 minutes, it will help to ease congestion and the flow of traffic around school and help to ensure that families can park and arrive at school on time.

We will be trialling this during spring 2. If we do not see a reduction in the number of traffic complaints/concerns or a decrease in the number of children arriving late to school, we will re-evaluate and may return to our original 5 minute drop off.

We hope this will help both of the above issues, and again ask you all to help school by driving slowly and carefully around our site and parking considerately. Please also ensure you vacate car park spaces as soon as your child has entered school in order to free them up for others.



Lions Adopt a Chef

On Wednesday this week, our Lions class enjoyed their second visit from Chef Idris who taught them all basic chopping skills using the bridge and claw methods. The children then enjoyed chopping and creating their own salads!



Parents Evening

Don't forget, next half term, we will also be holding our spring term parent/carer consultations. These will be held on **Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th March** from 3:30pm – 6:30pm. Please consider when would be a good time for you to attend so that you can sign up when the links are shared. Mrs Bird will be sending out the links on Monday 24th February so that parents/carers can sign up for their appointments.

Family Support

Justine Fitzer, our Family Support Worker, is available during half term if any of our families need any support or advice. You can contact Justine on 07809330825 or email at jfitzer@stlukesfirst.worcs.sch.uk

Thanks

This month's think:

If you paint over a window, is it still a window? Why? Why not?

A few more of our responses this month:

"No, it's not a window because you cannot see through it." (Eliza – Elephants)

"Yes, because light can still get through it." (Matilda - Lions)

"Yes and no because if you paint over a window it is still a window, but you can't see out of it." (Esme – Lions)

"Yes, because it won't be see through anymore, but it can be a colourful window.!" (Nancy – Lions)



**Safer
Internet
Day 2025** | **Tuesday
11 February**

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

Internet Safety Day

All classes this week have learnt about internet safety. Mrs Broughton has shared key messages to the whole school and each class has followed this up with activities in class, with a focus on the theme *'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online.'*

Some classes have also focused on this topic for their work with me session. Please spend some time talking about internet safety and what they have learnt this week with your child/ren.

Work with Me Sessions

Thank you to all the parents and carers who have joined us in school this week for Tigers, Elephants and Bears Work with Me sessions – we hope you enjoyed it!



Spring 2 Clubs

Our Spring 2 clubs start on Monday 24th February and will run for 6 weeks. If your child has been successful in gaining a place in one of our clubs, Mrs Bird will have notified you by Class Dojo message. If your child will be attending a sport club, we have also explained our uniform expectations. As a reminder:

Tuesday Netball – children to wear school uniform and bring trainers to change into.

Thursday Forest School/ECO – children to wear PE kit and ensure wellies are in school.



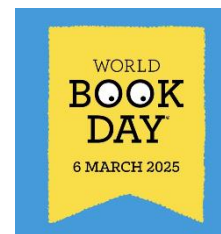
For all other clubs, children are to wear school uniform as usual. Thank you.

World Book Day

Please ensure you have read the world book day letter Mrs Broughton has added to Class Dojo this week. Key information:

Tuesday 4th March – Bedtime stories 5pm – 5.45pm. Please buy your tickets from Mrs Bird in the school office.

Thursday 6th March – Pyjama day! Bring a book for the book swap event and a photo of you reading in your favourite place so it can be added to our 'read your way' display in the school library.



OPAL

Following on from Mrs Burling's letter last week, we are ready to move to the next phase of OPAL after half term and this will involve opening our school field – in the first instance, every Wednesday for 'Welly Wednesday'! In order for this to run successfully, we are asking for –

- Each child to have a pair of wellies in school from Monday 24th February – and these wellies will stay on our welly racks (see pictures below – the daffodils will be sent home today!).
- Each individual welly to be clearly named (if they come into school not without being named, a member of staff will name them on the inside with a permanent marker pen).

You may also wish to put a pair of spare socks in your child's book bag. These welly racks are ready for all your wellies and we are so excited to see the field being used by the children to enhance their lunch time play! **Please remember – no wellies, no field!**



St Luke's VIPs!

This week's VIPs are: Xander (Bears), Ollie (Giraffes), Ella (Elephants), Ariaiah (Tigers) and Manahil (Lions).

When we return after half term, these children will continue to wear the VIP lanyards and will meet with me to have their hot chocolate and biscuit treat!

Lions Swimming

Our swimming lessons for Lions class continue after half term every Thursday. As our session last week was cancelled, our final swimming lesson will be on Thursday 27th March.

Collective Worship

In our collective worships, we reflect on our school vision:

In our St Luke's family, we recognise we are all God's children and through our caring and nurturing environment, we follow His word. We trust and rely on God's teaching so that we can encourage each other, develop our relationship with one another and the world, and flourish in all that we do.

God's word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path (Psalm 119 v.105)

In collective worship this week, we have completed our half termly theme of 'GOSPEL'. We have focused on 'L' is for LOVE and the children have learned about The Greatest Commandment (Matthew 22: 34-40) with the message that if we really love one another and show it, doing practical things to help, then all will be well.

In our Celebration Worship we have said "congratulations" to children impressing their teachers by showing our school values. I was delighted to hand out values certificates to Aliya (Bears), Oliwer (Giraffes), Muhammad (Elephants), Payton (Tigers) and Paisley (Lions).

Lunchtime Award Winners: Reggie (Giraffes), Hayden (Elephants)

OPAL Golden Welly Winner: Jemimah (Elephants)

Tigers and Lions classes have received attendance certificate of the week for attendance over 95% - well done!

St Luke's Stars of the Week

Each week in our celebration assembly, the teachers will be choosing a pupil to recognise for their excellent work and attitude to learning. Please see Class Dojo for pictures of our 'St Luke's Stars of the Week'. We are very proud of everyone for their hard work and achievements.



Bears: Nevaeh for her focus and commitment towards her phonics learning.

Giraffes: Yaseen for planning and writing a wonderful letter in English.

Elephants: Ethan for writing an excellent story.

Tigers: Maisie for her excellent effort in Science when investigating magnetic forces. She was able to clearly demonstrate how magnets are a 'non-contact' force.

Lions: Jacob for excellent computing skills, following demonstrations step by step and applying what he knows to help others.

Please continue to send in certificates and awards from outside of school achievements so we can share them with the whole school community during our celebration worship.



Should I keep my child off school?



Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

Squirrels

Wild about
the outdoors?
So are we.

Come along with your parents and carers to our
FREE Open Event at Headless Cross Scout Hut,
Feckenham Road, B97 5AS

on Friday 7th March 2025 4.30 - 5.30pm

to try out some exciting Squirrels activities and
find out more.

Squirrels. The newest branch of the Scouts family
tree. Where 4-6 year olds can join in too.

This is an age when minds are fizzing, when
energy and curiosity levels are sky high, when little
lives are full of wow and wonder.

This way to adventure!



scouts.org.uk/squirrels
07774 667074
heretohelp@scoutshw.org.uk
#SkillsForLife



Scouts

11th Redditch